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2 COMMISSIONERS

MARC SPITZER, Chairman

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WILLIAM A. MUNDELL 4 JEFF HATCH-MILLER MIKE GLEASON KRISTIN K. MAYES

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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION RECEIVED Arizona Corporation Commission

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Docket No. E-01345A-03-0437

AZ CORP COMMISSION

DOCUMENT CONTROL

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY FOR A HEARING TO DETERMINE THE FAIR VALUE OF THE UTILITY PROPERTY OF THE COMPANY FOR RATEMAKING PURPOSES, TO FIX A JUST AND REASONABLE RATE OF RETURN TEHREON, TO APROVE RATE SCHEDULES DESIGNED TO DEVELOP SUCH RETURN, AND FOR APPROVAL OF PURCHASED POWER CONTRACT.

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY FOR AN ORDER OR ORDERS AUTHORIZING IT TO ISSUE, INCUR, OR ASSUME EVIDENCES OF LONG-TERM INDEBTEDNESS; TO ACQUIRE A FINANCIAL INTEREST OR INTERESTS IN AN AFFILIATE OR AFFILIATES; TO LEND MONEY TO AN AFFILIATE OR AFFILIATES; AND TO GUARNATEE THE OBLIGATIONS OF AN AFFILIATE OR AFFILIATES

Docket No. E-01345A-02-0707

MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE

Staff of the Utilities Division ("Staff") of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") hereby requests that the Commission consolidate the preliminary inquiry created by Decision No. 65796 ("the APS Financing Case") with Docket No. E-01345A-03-0437, the pending APS rate case. These matters present overlapping issues and should therefore be consolidated.

The purpose of the preliminary inquiry is to determine whether Arizona Public Service Company ("APS") or its affiliates have taken any actions that are inconsistent with the electric competition rules or with Decision No. 61973, the APS settlement agreement. See Decision No. 65796 at 34. In the APS Financing Case, the evidence demonstrated that, in the Spring of 2001, Pinnacle West Energy Corporation ("PWEC"), an APS affiliate, made presentations to rating

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agencies claiming that PWEC was under contract to sell its output to APS under a four-year purchase power agreement. See id. at 34 n. 18. However, the electric competition rules and the APS settlement agreement, taken together, required APS to acquire all of its power for standard offer customers from the competitive market after January 1, 2003. The Commission concluded that the "dedication" of the PWEC assets to APS' customers raised the issue of possible noncompliance with the electric competition rules. See id. at 35 n.18. Accordingly, the development of the PWEC assets and the meaning of their "dedication" to APS customers are primary issues in the preliminary inquiry.

In the rate case, APS seeks to include the PWEC assets in its rate base. The issue of rate basing the PWEC assets, brought up during the course of the APS financing case, is one of the central issues in the APS rate case. APS argued then and argues now that the PWEC assets are "dedicated" to APS' customers and that the PWEC assets should become part of APS' rate base. Accordingly, in the rate case, the development of the PWEC assets and the meaning of their "dedication" to APS' customers are primary issues.

Staff believes that much of the same information to be sought for the preliminary inquiry will be relevant to the issue of whether the PWEC assets should be included in APS' rate base. A.A.C. R14-3-109(H) provides for consolidation "when it appears that issues are substantially the same and that the parties will not be prejudiced by such procedure." As explained above, Staff believes that the issues raised in the preliminary inquiry are completely interwoven into the rate case issues. Staff further believes that consolidation will provide an efficient and expeditious means to explore these issues and will eliminate potential duplication between two separate proceedings. Therefore, Staff requests consolidation of the preliminary inquiry with the APS rate case.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 5th day of November, 2003.

Christopher C. Kempley, Chief Counsel

Janet F. Wagner, Attorney Jason Gellman, Attorney

Arizona Corporation Commission

1200 West Washington Phoenix, Arizona 85007 (602) 542-3402

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1	Original and 15 copies of the foregoing filed this 5 th day of November, 2003, with:	
3	Docket Control Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington	
5	Phoenix, AZ 85007	
6 7	Copy of the foregoing mailed this 5th day of November, 2003, to:	
8	Thomas L. Mumaw Karilee S. Ramaley Pinnacle West Capital Corporation	Jesse A. Dillon PPL 2 North Ninth Street
10	P. O. Box 53999, MS 8695 Phoenix, AZ 85072-3999	Allentown, PA 18101 Walter W. Meek, President Arizona Utility Investors Association
11 12	Jeffrey B. Guldner Faraq Sanei Snell & Wilmer	2100 N. Central, Suite 210 Phoenix, AZ 85004
13	One Arizona Center 400 East Van Buren Phoenix, AZ 85004-0001	Scott S. Wakefield Chief Counsel RUCO
14 15	Attorneys for Arizona Public Service	1110 W. Washington, Suite 220 Phoenix, AZ 85007
16 17 18	Jay L. Shapiro Patrick J. Black Fennemore Craig, P.C. 3003 N. Central, Suite 2600 Phoenix, AZ 85012 Attorneys for Panda Gila River	Jana Brandt Kelly Barr Regulatory Affairs and Contracts Salt River Project Mail Station PAB221 P. O. Box 52025
19	Raymond S. Heyman Michael W. Patten	Phoenix, AZ 85072-2025
20 21	Roshka Heyman & DeWulf One Arizona Center 400 E. Van Buren, Suite 800	C. Webb Crockett Fennemore Craig, P.C. 3003 N. Central, Suite 2600
22	Phoenix, AZ 85004 Attorneys for UniSource Energy Services	Phoenix, AZ 85012 Attorneys for AECC and Phelps Dodge
23 24 25	Deborah R. Scott Unisource Energy Services One South Church Street, Suite 200 Tucson, Arizona 85702	Mr. Brian Walker Reliant Energy Wholesale Group Post Office Box 286 Houston, TX 77001
26 27	Mr. Curtis Kebler Reliant Resources, Inc. 8996 Etiwanda Avenue Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91739	Theodore E. Roberts Sempra Energy Resources 101 Ash Street, HQ 12-B San Diego, CA 92101-3017

1	Lawrence V. Robertson, Jr.	G
2	Munger Chadwick, P.L.C. National Bank Plaza	A
3	333 North Wilmot, Suite 300	54 Pł
	Tucson, AZ 85711	M
4	Larry F. Eisenstat Michael R. Engleman	A.
5	Frederick D. Ochsenhirt	13 Ty
6	Dickstein Shapiro Morin & Oshinsky, LLP 2102 L Street, N.W.	A
7	Washington, D.C. 20037	M
	Michael A. Curtis	Bo 36
8	William P. Sullivan Martinez & Curtis, P.C.	Ci
9	2712 North Seventh Street	At
10	Phoenix, AZ 85006	Bi M
11	Jay I. Moyes	24
	Moyes Storey 3003 N. Central, Suite 1250	Ph Co
12	Phoenix, AZ 85012	
13	Roger K. Ferland	Ro Aı
14	Quarles & Brady Streich Lang LLP Renaissance One	P. Ph
15	Two North Central Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85004-2391	
16		Aı Br
	Timothy M. Hogan Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest	So 52
17	202 E. McDowell Road, Suite 153	La
18	Phoenix, Z 85004 Attorneys for Western Resource Advocates	J.
19	Paul R. Michaud	At
20	Martinez & Curtis, P.C.	11 Ph
	2712 North Seventh Street Phoenix, AZ 85006-1090	
21	Attorneys for Constellation NewEnergy, Inc.,	
22	Strategic Energy, L.L.C. and Dome Valley Energy Partners, LLC	
23.		
24	\sim Ω_{a}	
25	Mancy Kor	
Z.) II	/ I	

reg Patterson rizona Competitive Power Alliance 432 East Avalon hoenix, AZ 85018

ajor Allen G. Erickson FCES A/ULT 39 Barnes Drive, Suite 1 yndall AFB, Florida 32403-5319 ttorney for FEA

lichael L. Kurtz oehm, Kurtz & Lowry E. Seventh Street, Suite 2110 incinnati, OH 45202 ttorneys for Kroger Company

ill Murphy urphy Consulting 22 E. Palo Verde Drive noenix, AZ 85016 onsultant for Arizona Cogeneration Assn.

obert W. Geake rizona Water Company O. Box 29006 oenix, AZ 85038-9006

ndrew W. Bettwy idget A. Branigan outhwest Gs Corporation 41 Spring Mountain Road as Vegas, NV 89150

William Moore torney at Law 44 East Jefferson oenix, AZ 85034

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27

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